

Abstract

A compliant pin (10) is adapted to be pressed into a through-hole (12) of a printed circuit board (14) and have electrical contact with opposing surfaces of a side wall (16) of the through-hole. The compliant pin (10) includes a portion (30) insertable in the through-hole (12) that includes spaced deflectable beam portions (32) having outer surfaces (54 and 56) spaced apart a distance greater than the spacing of the opposing surfaces of the side wall (16). The beam portions (32) engage the side wall (16) and deflect toward each other when the portion (30) is inserted in the through-hole (12) and provide a frictional engagement between the beam portions and the side wall. The frictional engagement provides a retention force for retaining the portion (30) in the through-hole (12). The portion (30) includes an opening (50) that extends through the portion and defines inner surfaces (52) of said beam portions (32) opposite the outer surfaces (54 and 56). The inner surfaces (52) consist essentially of a plurality of blended cylindrical surfaces (60, 62, 64, 66, 68).